CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A motorcycle with a braking system including a linkage comprising:

a brake pedal connected to a first end of brake arm, the brake arm rotating about a brake arm fulcrum in a first plane;

a second end of the brake arm being mechanically connected to a rocker arm;

the rocker arm rotating in a second plane, the second plane being different than the first plane; and

a follower assembly connected to the rocker arm and adapted to move across the width of the motorcycle.

2. The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein a downward motion of the brake pedal causes the second end of the brake arm to move upwards.

3. The motorcycle according claim 2, wherein the upward motion of the second end of the brake arm causes the rocker arm to rotate counter-clockwise.

4. The motorcycle according to claim 3, wherein the counter-clockwise rotation of the rocker arm causes the follower assembly to move in a generally horizontal direction.

5. The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein a distal end of the follower assembly is mechanically associated with a caliper and motion of the distal end of the follower assembly actuates the caliper and the caliper squeezes at least one brake pad against a disk.

6. A motorcycle comprising:

a front wheel, a rear wheel, a frame, a seat and handlebars;

the motorcycle also having a body perimeter; and

a mechanical linkage connecting a brake pedal with a caliper, wherein the caliper is located within the body perimeter.

7. The motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the brake pedal is on one side of the motorcycle and wherein the caliper is on the other side of the motorcycle.

8. The motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the mechanical linkage includes a follower assembly that extends from one side of the motorcycle to the other side of the motorcycle.

9. The motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the mechanical linkage converts vertical motion into horizontal motion.

10. The motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the brake pedal pivots about a brake arm fulcrum and includes a forward brake arm and a rear brake arm, and wherein the forward brake arm is adapted to receive a rider's foot, and wherein the rear brake arm is connected to an actuator that can be driven upwards.

11. The motorcycle according to claim 10, wherein the actuator is connected to a first end of a rocker arm and upwards motion of the actuator rotates the rocker arm, and wherein a follower assembly is connected to a second end of the rocker arm, whereby rotation of the rocker arm moves the follower assembly in a generally horizontal direction..

12. The motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the mechanical linkage includes a rocker arm that converts generally vertical motion into generally horizontal motion.

13. A motorcycle comprising:

a front wheel, a rear wheel having an axis of rotation, a frame, a seat and handlebars;

a braking system including a linkage associating a brake pedal with a caliper having a line of action, the caliper adapted to engage a disk;

wherein the line of action of the caliper has a direction that is different than the axis of rotation of the rear wheel.

14. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the caliper includes a first disk pad and a second disk pad, and wherein the second disk pad is disposed forward of the first disk pad.

15. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the caliper includes a first disk pad and a second disk pad, and wherein the first and second disk pads are disposed laterally with respect to the motorcycle.

16. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the linkage includes a rocker arm that converts generally vertical motion into generally horizontal motion.

17. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the linkage includes a follower assembly that extends from one side of the motorcycle to the other side.

18. The motorcycle according to claim 17, wherein the follower assembly moves in a generally horizontal direction and wherein the horizontal motion of the follower assembly actuates the caliper.

19. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the line of action of the caliper is in a direction substantially similar to a longitudinal axis of the motorcycle.

20. The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the caliper engages a disk adapted to brake a rear wheel and having an axis of rotation different than the axis of rotation of a rear wheel.